

Message Text

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42

ORIGIN AF-18

INFO OCT-01 CCO-00 RSC-01 SS-20 SSO-00 ISO-00 /040 R

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O 021825Z MAR 74 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 042330

TOSEC 306

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS, ET
SUBJECT: REPORT ON ETHIOPIAN SITUATION

REF: TOSEC 278

1. IN A MARCH 1 PRESS CONFERENCE, THE NEW ETHIOPIAN PRIME MINISTER, ENDALKATCHEW, SAID HE WOULD SELECT MEN OF "TALENT, YOUTH AND EXPERIENCE" FOR HIS CABINET, WHICH WOULD HAVE "BROAD APPEAL." HE PROFESSED TO BE ENCOURAGED BY THE RESPONSE OF THE ARMED FORCES TO HIS APPOINTMENT, THOUGH HE ADMITTED THAT REBUILDING CONFIDENCE WOULD TAKE TIME. HE ACCUSED "RADICAL" ELEMENTS OF WANTING TO GO BEYOND WHAT REALITY WOULD ALLOW.

2. ENDALKATCHEW APPEARS TO HAVE GAINED AT LEAST GRUDGING ACCEPTANCE BY THE REBELLING MILITARY, WHO BY MARCH 2 HAD LARGELY RETURNED TO THEIR NORMAL DUTY STATIONS, LEAVING THE SECURITY OF ADDIS ABABA IN THE HANDS OF THE REGULAR POLICE. THERE ARE INDICATIONS THAT THE STUDENTS ARE CONTINUING THEIR OPPOSITION TO ENDALKATCHEW'S APPOINTMENT, BUT IT IS DOUBTFUL THAT THE MILITARY WILL PERMIT THE

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STUDENTS TO GET OUT OF HAND. CASEY

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Message Attributes

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